Appl. No. 09/412,792
Response Dated April 25, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 25, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the

application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A method of broadcasting data, comprising:

sending to a receiver scheduling information that includes a scheduled time and

identifies an encoding format, wherein the encoding format comprises a content format

used to encode the data prior to broadcasting and apart from encoding the broadcast for

transmission through a transport medium;

wherein said scheduling information is capable of processing by the receiver prior

to the scheduled time to select one viewer application from a plurality of viewer

applications which are stored on the receiver and are capable of processing the broadcast

of data in the encoding format at the scheduled time or to update the receiver with a new

viewer application capable of processing the broadcast of data in the encoding format;

and

broadcasting the data at the scheduled time.

2. (canceled)

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the sent information identifies one of

a viewer age and a content provider for the data.

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4. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein the sent information identifies a

channel for broadcasting the data; and

the broadcast transmits the data in the identified channel.

5. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the identified channel comprises one

of a cable channel, a wireless channel, and a multicast group address.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the viewer applications

decode broadcasted data.

7. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the broadcasting starts at a

predetermined time after the sending of the information.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the content format is an

ATVEF format.

9. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

sending second information about a second scheduled time and content format for

a broadcast of new data, the second content format being indicative of a new viewer

application for processing the new data; and

then broadcasting the new data during the second scheduled time.

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10. (previously presented) A method of processing data, comprising:

receiving scheduling information providing broadcast times for data broadcasts

and information to identify an encoding format, wherein the encoding format comprises a

content format used to encode the data prior to broadcasting and apart from encoding the

broadcast for transmission through a transport medium;

processing the scheduling information prior to the broadcast times to select a

viewer application from a plurality of viewer applications which are stored at a receiver

and are capable of processing the data broadcasts in the encoding format at the broadcast

times or to update the receiver with a new viewer application capable of processing the

data broadcasts in the encoding format;

receiving data from one of the broadcasts at the scheduled broadcast time; and

processing the received data with the selected or new viewer application.

11. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein the scheduling information

identifies channels scheduled to broadcast the data.

12. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein the scheduling information

associated with a portion of the broadcasts identifies one of content formats, viewer ages,

and content providers of the associated data.

13. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein the processing comprises:

decoding the received data.

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14. (previously presented): A method of processing data, comprising:

receiving scheduling information that provides broadcast times for data

broadcasts and information for identifying an encoding format, wherein the encoding

format comprises a content format used to encode the data prior to broadcasting and apart

from encoding the broadcast for transmission through a transport medium;

writing the scheduling information to a scheduling table having entries indexed by

scheduled broadcast times and channels; and

processing the scheduling information prior to the broadcast times to select a

viewer application from a plurality of viewer applications which are stored at a receiver

and are capable of processing the data broadcasts in the encoding format at the broadcast

times or to update the receiver with a new viewer application capable of processing the

data broadcasts in the encoding format.

15-17. (canceled)

18. (previously presented) A system for receiving data broadcasts, comprising:

an interface to receive scheduling information that provides broadcast times and

broadcasts of data in an encoding format, wherein the encoding format comprises a

content format used to encode the data prior to broadcasting and apart from encoding the

broadcast for transmission through a transport medium;

a data storage device storing a plurality of viewer applications to decode the

broadcasts of data; and

a processor coupled to the data storage device, the processor to process the

scheduling information prior to the broadcast times to select viewer applications from a

plurality of viewer applications on said data storage device and capable of processing the

broadcasts of data at the broadcast times in the encoding format for the broadcasts or to

update the data storage device with a new viewer application capable of processing the

broadcasts of data in the encoding format for the broadcasts.

19. (original) The system of claim 18, wherein the data storage device further

stores an executable control application for updating a scheduling table in response to

receiving new scheduling information for a broadcast of data.

20. (previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the control

application selects the viewer application to decode data based on information from the

scheduling table.

21. (previously presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the control

application selects the viewer application based on availability data for the viewer

applications stored in a viewer application selection table.

22. (previously presented) A data storage device encoding computer executable

instructions for a method of broadcasting data, the instructions to cause a system to:

send scheduling information to a receiver about a scheduled time and encoding

format for a broadcast of data, , wherein the encoding format comprises a content format

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used to encode the data prior to broadcasting and apart from encoding the broadcast for

transmission through a transport medium, wherein said scheduling information is capable

of processing by the receiver prior to the scheduled time to select one viewer application

from a plurality of viewer applications which are stored on the receiver and are capable

of processing the broadcast of data in the encoding format at the scheduled time or to

update the receiver with a new viewer application capable of processing the broadcast of

data in the encoding format; and

 broadcast the data at the scheduled time.

23. (original) The device of claim 22, wherein the information identifies one of a

content provider, a viewer age, and a scheduled broadcast channel for the data.

24. (previously presented) The device of claim 22, wherein the instructions

further cause the system to broadcast the data at a predetermined time after the sending of

the information.

25. (previously presented) The device of claim 22, wherein the instructions

further cause the system to:

 broadcast second information about a second scheduled time and content format

for a broadcast of new data, the second content format being indicative of another viewer

application selected from a plurality of viewer applications to process the new data; and

 then, broadcast the new data at the second scheduled time.

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26. (previously presented): A data storage device storing executable instructions,

the instructions to cause a computer to:

receive scheduling information for encoding formats and broadcast times of

broadcasts of data, wherein the encoding format comprises a content format used to

encode the data prior to broadcasting and apart from encoding the broadcast for

transmission through a transport medium;

process the scheduling information prior to the broadcast times to select a viewer

application from a plurality of viewer applications which are stored at a receiver and are

capable of processing the broadcasts of data in the encoding format at the broadcast times

or to update the receiver with a new viewer application capable of processing the

broadcasts of data in the encoding format;

receive data from one of the broadcasts at a scheduled broadcast time; and

process the received data with a viewer application for processing in the encoding

format.

27. (original) The device of claim 26, wherein the scheduling information

identifies channels scheduled to broadcast the data.

28. (original) The device of claim 26, wherein the instructions to process further

causes the computer to:

decode the received data.

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29. (original) The device of claim 26, the instructions further causing the

computer to:

write the scheduling information to a scheduling table having entries indexed by

scheduled broadcast times; and

wherein the instruction causing the computer to process causes the computer to

select the viewer application based on data from the scheduling table.

30. (original) The device of claim 26, wherein the instruction causing the

computer to process causes the computer to:

select the viewer application from a viewer application selection table listing

available viewer applications.

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